



ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

PARISH WORKBOOK
ST. BRIDGET OF KILDARE - PACIFIC

ABOUT YOUR PARISH WORKBOOK

- This parish workbook is designed to equip pastors and key parish leaders with data about the Archdiocese of St. Louis, your local planning area, and your parish.
- The data contained in this parish workbook has been gathered over the past twenty years from your parish and other parishes across the Archdiocese.
- This parish workbook should be used as an internal planning tool to help shape your reflections on the current strengths and opportunities for future growth of ministry and evangelization in the future.
- To help ensure accuracy of information, parishes are requested to limit the distribution of the information contained in this parish workbook to the pastor, parish staff, key parish leaders, and key advisory bodies. Information summarizing this data will be made available in the fall 2022 for parishioners across the Archdiocese.



ALL THINGS NEW PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you sent your Son Jesus as the first Evangelizer of the Good News.

Send forth the power of the Holy Spirit upon the Church of St. Louis and grant us the gift of true discernment so we may do your will in all things.

Help us be totally free to follow wherever you lead us, totally generous to be good stewards of your many gifts, and totally passionate to suffer all in order to be more closely united to you.

Commissioned by your Son and empowered by the Spirit to “Go and Make Disciples of all Nations,” strengthen us by the power of your grace as we bring the Good News of Salvation into the lives of all those we touch, so that individual hearts and all of society may be converted to you and all things might be made new.

Inspired by the apostolic zeal of previous generations, as we begin the process of planning for the future, may our only desire be to do all things for the greater glory and honor of your name and for the good of your people in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



GUIDING TEXTS

REV. 21:3-5

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, the old order has passed away.”

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy and true.”





GUIDING TEXTS EVANGELII NUNTIANDI (#18)

For the Church, evangelizing means bringing the Good News into all the strata of humanity, and through its influence transforming humanity from within and making it new: "Now I am making the whole of creation new."

But there is no new humanity if there are not first of all new persons renewed by Baptism and by lives lived according to the Gospel.





GUIDING TEXTS JOY OF THE GOSPEL (#27)

I dream of a “missionary option”, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.



STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE OUTCOME

Develop a plan that will make all things new enabling a vibrant Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis for the next century

A Renewed Church

Gospel renewal in our parishes, schools, and other ministry efforts

A Renewed Mission

Enhance our evangelization efforts to those on the margins of society

A Vibrant Future

Secure a vibrant future for the Church of St. Louis



STRATEGIC PASTORAL PLANNING INITIATIVE

GOALS

1. **Unceasing Prayer.** Engage all individual Catholics to reflect upon the need for Jesus Christ in their daily lives and call upon the Holy Spirit to guide our actions to fully share the love of the Lord in every encounter.
2. **Unifying Vision.** Articulate and implement a vision for evangelization that empowers and expects every baptized Catholic to spread the Gospel message and ensures a Catholic presence in every square mile of the Archdiocese of St. Louis through missionary outreach, parish and school footprint, and dynamic leadership.
3. **Intentional Stewardship.** Define and develop a plan that will appropriately reallocate resources throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis that will be supported by structures at the diocesan, parish, school, and agency levels to ensure long-term viability and vibrancy of the Catholic presence.



ALL THINGS NEW TIMELINE





ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR DIOCESE
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

ABOUT OUR DIOCESE

- The Archdiocese of St. Louis is 178 parishes encompassing the City of St. Louis and 10 surrounding counties – a large and diverse territory: urban, suburban and rural.
- Our local church has been declining for several decades as older Catholics die and there are insufficient number of young Catholics to take their place.
- This is best exemplified by the significant decline in the number of births and baptisms in our diocese.
- As our Catholic population has moved from the city to the near suburbs and from the near suburbs to the farther out suburbs, this has resulted in too few priests in large parishes and too many priests in small parishes.
- Our diocesan priests are aging and number of priests to serve our Catholic population is declining.
- Over the past decade, Mass attendance has been on a steady decline. The long-term implications of COVID are unknown, but the rebound in Mass attendance from 2020 to 2021 still leaves us 25% below pre-COVID levels.



OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- In 2021, the number of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis dipped below 500,000 for first time since the 1960s.
- We have more baptisms than funerals and we have nearly 1,000 enter the church each year. Our numbers should be growing by 2,000 per year.
- As many as 5,000 Catholics are “leaving” the Church – OR – not re-engaging in the Church after high school or college.



OUR CATHOLIC POPULATION IS AGING RESULTING IN FEWER YOUNG PEOPLE

The Landscape in the United States

- In the last decade, the percentage of the adult population claiming no religious affiliation (the “nones”) grew from 17% to 26%.
- In the last decade, the percentage of the millennial population claiming no religious affiliation grew from 27% to 40%.

The Landscape in the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Our baptism and marriage trends reflect the national landscape, as they are half of what they were 20 years ago.



WEEKLY SUNDAY MASS ATTENDANCE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mass attendance was declining between 0.5% to 1% per year.
- Mass attendance hit a record low in October 2020 which is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While Mass attendance in October 2021 showed a significant increase from 2020, it was still 25% lower than Mass attendance in October 2019.
- In 2019, only 33% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass. By 2021, only 25% of our pews were occupied during the typical weekend Mass.



FEWER BAPTISMS HAVE RESULTED IN FEWER CHILDREN IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AND PSR

- Though we educate a higher percentage of children in our Catholic schools than nearly any other diocese (37%), enrollment continues to decline.
- During the last decade, PSR enrollment has declined faster than day school enrollment.
- Our current model of Catholic elementary schools cannot continue.
 - Only 40-50% of our elementary school children live in the boundaries of their parish school.
 - The cost to educate our students continues to outpace tuition increases.
 - Parish investment in our schools continues to absorb an increasing percentage of parish funds available to support other parish ministries.



OUR PRIESTS ARE AGING

- 35% of our diocesan priests (74 priests) serving in parishes are 65 years of age or older.
- These 74 priests could retire in the next 10 years.
- Though priests' retirement age is 75, the average of retirement for our diocesan priests has been 71.
- By 2026, we will have fewer diocesan priests to serve in parishes than the number of parishes we have.
- Our largest parishes will still need to be served by 2-3 priests.



* Excluding retired priests resident in parishes



OUR FINITE RESOURCES NEED TO BE REALIGNED TO ENABLE VIBRANT MINISTRY



| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Number of Priests * | 49 | 46 | 38 | 27 | 50 |
| Ratio of Parishioners to Priests | 619 | 1,416 | 1,996 | 2,704 | 3,411 |

* Includes diocesan and religious order priests



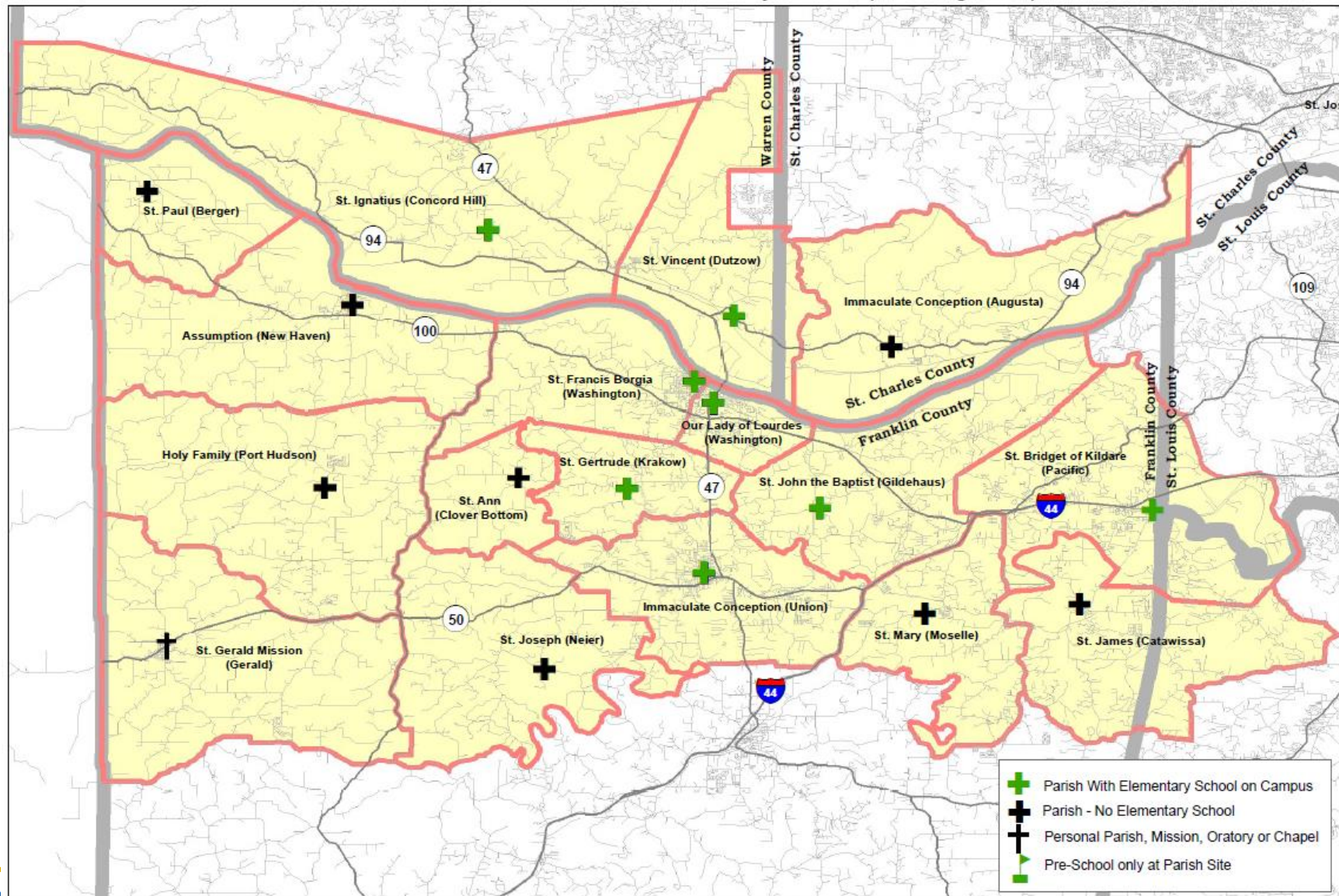


ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

OUR PLANNING AREA
PLANNING AREA #12

OUR TERRITORY FOR EVANGELIZATION



ABOUT OUR PLANNING AREA

- The planning area is in the Counties of St. Charles, Franklin and Warren with a small portion to the east in St. Louis County and Jefferson County. The geography of this area is defined by Interstate 44, Highway 50 and Routes 94, 47, 100 and 185.
- Located in Washington deanery. There are 15 territorial parishes, 1 mission and 8 elementary schools. Currently there are 14 diocesan priests assigned to this group.
- There is a cluster of parishes around Route 47 that are within 5 miles of each other and two of the larger parishes are within 1.5 miles. Though the three parishes north of the river are five miles from each other, inclement weather makes travelling in this area difficult and the bridge into Franklin County has been known to be impassible with flooding or ice.



OUR PLANNING AREA IS AGING BUT HAS A HIGHER THAN AVERAGE CATHOLIC POPULATION

- Total population in the planning area in the 2020 census was up 5% from 2010.
- The population 55 or older increased from 21% in 2000 to 32% in 2020.
- 24% of the population is registered Catholic, which is higher than the Diocesan average of 18%.
- Median household income in the area is \$62,672, which is above the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.



OUR PLANNING AREA DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

| (U.S. Census Data) | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Population | 67,780 | 78,710 | 84,663 | 88,611 |
| Percent Change | | 16% | 8% | 5% |
| Households | 23,518 | 28,634 | 32,144 | 34,390 |
| Percent Change | | 22% | 12% | 7% |
| Population | | | | |
| White | 66,309 | 76,110 | 81,481 | 80,830 |
| Percent of Total | 98% | 97% | 96% | 91% |
| Black | 1,058 | 1,340 | 1,161 | 1,385 |
| Percent of Total | 2% | 2% | 1% | 2% |
| Other/Multi-Race | 412 | 1,260 | 2,020 | 6,396 |
| Percent of Total | 1% | 2% | 2% | 7% |
| Hispanic (not a race) | 422 | 548 | 1,163 | 2,020 |
| Percent of Total | 1% | 1% | 1% | 2% |
| % of Population Age 55+ | 20% | 21% | 26% | 32% |

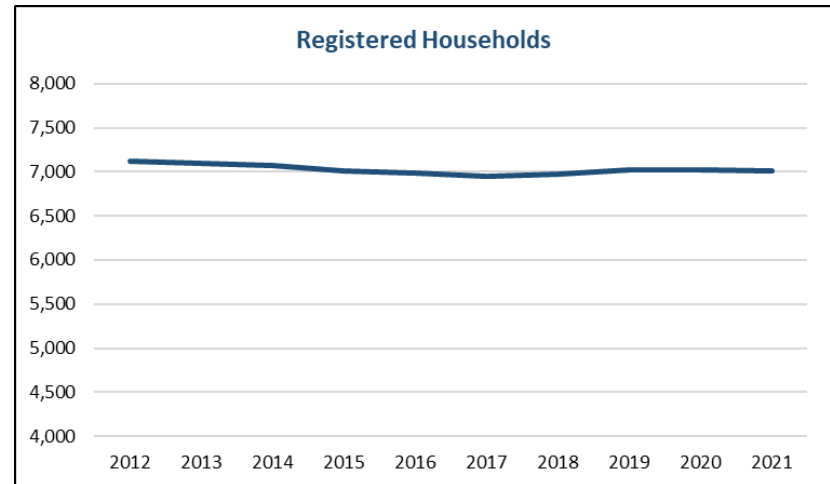
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|--|-----------|
| 2020 Data | |
| % of Households - Renters | 24% |
| % of Households - Single Person Living Alone | 24% |
| Median Household Income | |
| Planning Area | \$ 62,007 |
| Archdiocese | \$ 60,700 |
| 2021 Data | |
| % of Population Registered Catholic | |
| Planning Area | 23% |
| Archdiocese | 18% |
| No. of Catholic School Children in Planning Area | 1,270 |
| 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average) | |
| % 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools | 75% |



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

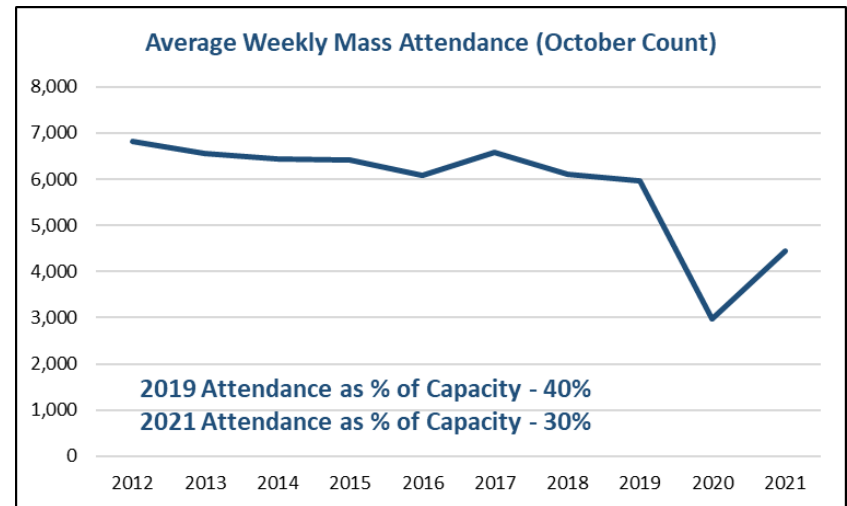
- Registered households in the planning area declined by 2% during the past decade, compared to a decline of 7% for the diocese.



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

MASS ATTENDANCE

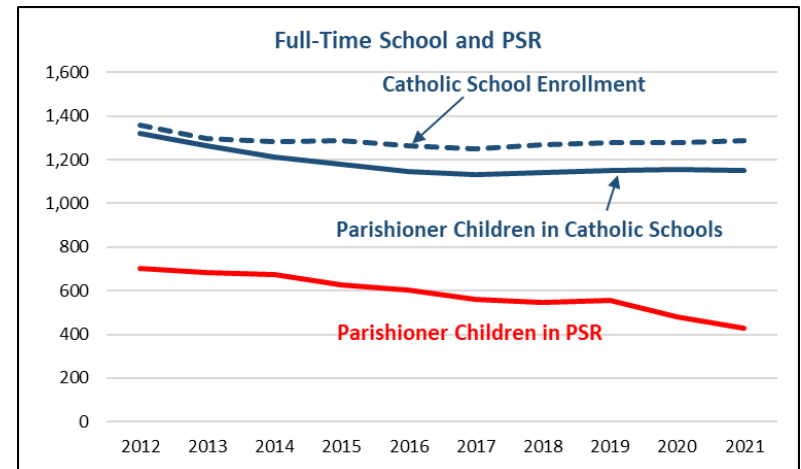
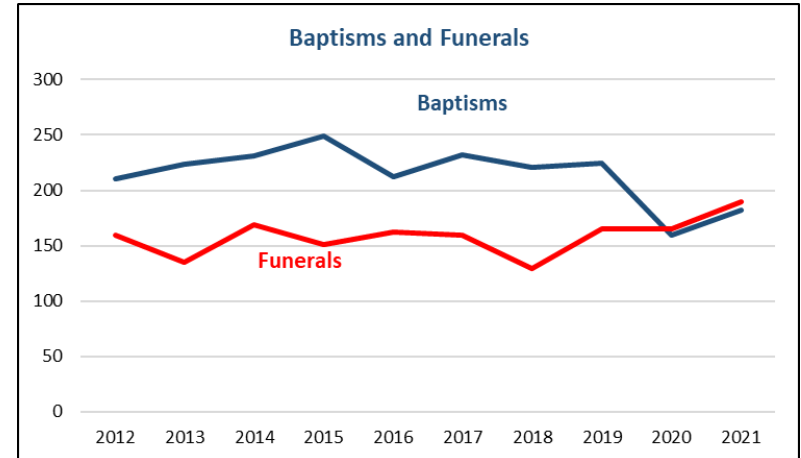
- Mass attendance declined 24% during the decade, compared to a decline of 30% for the archdiocese as a whole.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity was above the Archdiocesan average of 35% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.



OUR PLANNING AREA SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 FORMATION

- Baptisms had been stable and well above funerals until the two COVID years.
- The Catholics of this planning area have a strong preference for Catholic day schools over PSR.
- Catholic school enrollment declined 5% over the past decade, compared to a 22% decline for the entire diocese.
- PSR enrollment declined 39% over the past decade, similar to that of the overall diocese.



OUR PLANNING AREA

MINISTRY TRENDS

| | Registered Parishioner Households | | Number of Catholics | Weekend Mass Attendance | | Church Capacity | Baptisms | Funerals | Parishioner Children in: | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------|
| | 2011 | 2021 | | 2019 | 2021 | | Five Year Average 2017-2021 | | Catholic Schools (Include Privates) 2021-22 | Traditional PSR 2021-22 |
| Assumption (New Haven) | 298 | 280 | 810 | n/a * | n/a * | 220 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 26 |
| Holy Family (Port Hudson) | 110 | 128 | 349 | 121 | 77 | 100 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 23 |
| Immaculate Conception (Augusta) | 119 | 100 | 253 | 108 | 93 | 98 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 15 |
| Immaculate Conception (Union) | 1,027 | 945 | 2,650 | 1,060 | 593 | 325 | 22 | 25 | 141 | 46 |
| Our Lady of Lourdes (Washington) | 895 | 1,029 | 3,010 | 923 | 683 | 850 | 50 | 23 | 331 | 49 |
| St. Ann (Clover Bottom) | 185 | 169 | 438 | 191 | 192 | 220 | 7 | 2 | 36 | 29 |
| St. Bridget of Kildare (Pacific) | 610 | 585 | 1,580 | 402 | 311 | 500 | 10 | 11 | 94 | 23 |
| St. Francis Borgia (Washington) | 1,482 | 1,457 | 3,805 | 1,045 | 892 | 600 | 35 | 35 | 201 | 57 |
| St. Gerald Mission (Gerald) | 122 | 84 | 220 | 98 | 76 | 300 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| St. Gertrude (Krakow) | 655 | 616 | 1,735 | 489 | 389 | 325 | 16 | 14 | 104 | 28 |
| St. Ignatius (Concord Hill) | 241 | 185 | 535 | 220 | 147 | 350 | 7 | 3 | 36 | 10 |
| St. James (Catawissa) | 97 | 101 | 213 | n/a * | n/a * | 150 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 12 |
| St. John the Baptist (Gildehaus) | 475 | 520 | 1,485 | 488 | 363 | 200 | 17 | 12 | 88 | 30 |
| St. Joseph (Neier) | 284 | 300 | 902 | 276 | 211 | 350 | 9 | 5 | 24 | 61 |
| St. Mary (Moselle) | 155 | 142 | 321 | n/a * | n/a * | 225 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 8 |
| St. Paul (Berger) | 96 | 110 | 288 | n/a * | n/a * | 140 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| St. Vincent (Dutzow) | 287 | 264 | 770 | 249 | 188 | 250 | 9 | 7 | 70 | 3 |
| TOTAL | 7,138 | 7,015 | 19,364 | 5,670 | 4,215 | | 204 | 162 | 1,149 | 430 |

* Assumption (New Haven), St. James (Catawissa), St. Mary (Moselle), & St. Paul (Berger) either don't participate in October Mass Counts or did so too infrequently to count.



OUR PLANNING AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IS INCREASING

- The eight elementary schools in this planning area enrolled 1,290 children in 2021, up 2% from 5 years before. All but two have under 200 students.
- Most schools draw heavily from outside their parish boundaries.
- The number of students going to Catholic elementary schools from the parishes in the planning area is 1,149.
- There are 430 students enrolled in PSR in 2021, down 28% from 5 years earlier.



OUR PLANNING AREA

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRENDS

| | 2021-22 | 2021-22 | 2021-22 vs 2016-17 | 2021-22 | 2021-22 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|---|--|
| | Enrollment (K-8) | Enrollment (Pre-K) PK 3-4 & PK 4-5 | 5 Year Percent Change in (K-8) Enrollment | % K-8 Students Registered in Parish | % K-8 Students Living in Parish Boundaries |
| Immaculate Conception - Union | 192 | 26 | (31%) | 73% | 64% |
| Our Lady of Lourdes - Washington | 343 | 81 | 21% | 92% | 34% |
| St. Bridget of Kildare - Pacific | 124 | 32 | 15% | 74% | 49% |
| St. Francis Borgia - Washington | 262 | 67 | 41% | 73% | 40% |
| St. Gertrude - Krakow | 161 | 48 | 0% | 62% | 29% |
| St. Ignatius - Concord Hill | 41 | 6 | (15%) | 83% | 78% |
| St. John the Baptist - Gildehaus | 90 | 27 | (27%) | 86% | 50% |
| St. Vincent - Dutzow | 77 | 18 | 4% | 82% | 57% |
| TOTAL | 1,290 | 305 | 2% | n/a | n/a |





ALL THINGS NEW

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OUR PARISH
ST. BRIDGET OF KILDARE - PACIFIC

ABOUT OUR PARISH

- St. Bridget parish was founded in 1841 by Irish immigrants who called the community Downpatrick after the Irish town where St. Patrick and St. Bridget are buried. Unusually, the parish territory sits in 3 different counties: St. Louis, Franklin and Jefferson. The parish church, in Franklin County is near the intersection of the three counties. However, St. Bridget gets few parishioners from the St. Louis County portion of their territory. Most Catholics in that area choose Most Sacred Heart in Eureka or St. Alban Roe. The parish has operated an elementary school since 1886.
- The parish has 585 households and 124 children in the parish school.
- The parish church was built in 1961 and seats 600. The parish operates 3 cemeteries.



ABOUT OUR PARISH

- Population growth has been slow despite being directly off of I-44.
- Parish membership has been stable with stable baptisms, school enrollment increasing perhaps at the expense of PSR enrollment. Mass attendance pre-COVID had been strong.
- Offertory has been growing but cash flow was struggling until it had the benefit of two large bequests. The parish investment in the parish school is much higher than recommended.



OUR PARISH AREA HAS SEEN VERY SLOW GROWTH THE LAST TWO DECADES

- Population has grown very slowly the last two decades.
 - Though Interstate 44 runs right through the parish territory, population growth seems to be limited to the Eureka area.
- Median household income is \$59,800 which is just at the archdiocesan average of \$60,700.
- 14% of the resident population is Catholic which is below the archdiocesan average of 18%. Areas to the east and west of Pacific have higher concentrations of Catholics.



OUR PARISH

DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

| (U.S. Census Data) | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 | 2020 |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Population | 12,021 | 13,822 | 14,153 | 14,554 |
| Percent Change | | 15% | 2% | 3% |
| Households | 3,941 | 4,811 | 5,131 | 5,505 |
| Percent Change | | 22% | 7% | 7% |
| Population | | | | |
| White | 11,282 | 12,762 | 13,060 | 12,465 |
| Percent of Total | 94% | 92% | 92% | 86% |
| Black | 618 | 766 | 651 | 796 |
| Percent of Total | 5% | 6% | 5% | 5% |
| Other/Multi-Race | 121 | 295 | 442 | 1,293 |
| Percent of Total | 1% | 2% | 3% | 9% |
| Hispanic (not a race) | 98 | 95 | 243 | 413 |
| Percent of Total | 1% | 1% | 2% | 3% |
| % of Population Age 55+ | 16% | 19% | 23% | 29% |

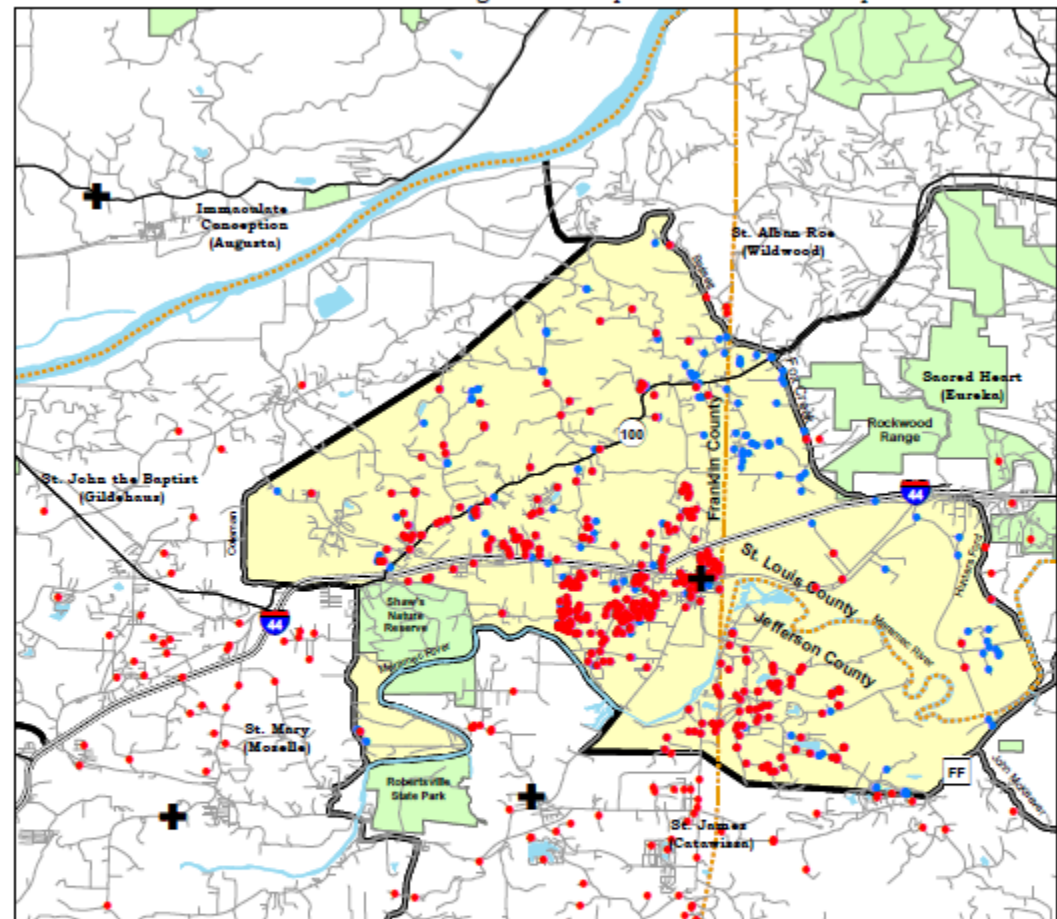
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| 2020 Data | |
| % of Households - Renters | 30% |
| % of Households - Single Person Living Alone | 28% |
| Median Household Income | |
| Parish Area | \$59,806 |
| Archdiocese | \$60,700 |
| 2021 Data | |
| % of Population Registered Catholic | |
| Parish Area | 14% |
| Archdiocese | 18% |
| No. of Catholic School Children in Parish Area | 79 |
| 2017-2021 (Five-Year Average) | |
| % 8th Grade Students to Catholic High Schools | 29% |



WHERE OUR PARISHIONERS & CATHOLICS LIVE

- Red dots are parishioner households; blue dots are Catholic households that are registered at a different parish.
- There are slightly more Catholic households in the boundaries (631) than there are parishioner households (590).
- This means that slightly more Catholic households leave the boundaries to affiliate elsewhere than come into the parish from outside the boundaries.
- Nearly all Catholics in St. Louis County portion of the boundaries do not register at St. Bridget parish. Many Catholics north of Highway 100 also choose other parishes.

73 Percent of parishioner households live within the parish boundaries
68 Percent of Catholic households living within the parish boundaries are parishioners



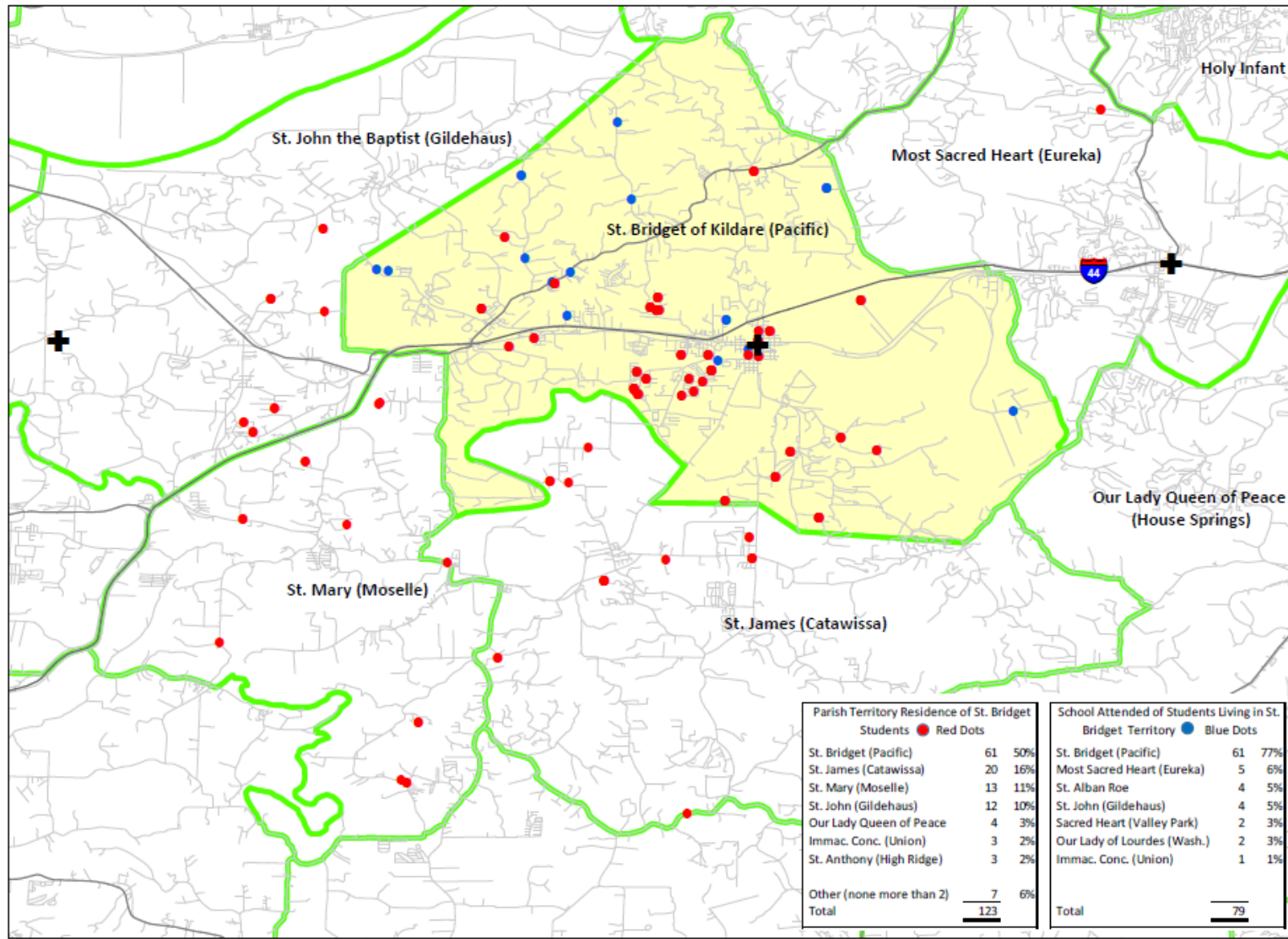
- Parishioner Households
- Catholic households living in parish boundaries that are members of another parish

| Residence of Parishioners | | | Parish Membership of HH in parish boundaries | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|--|-----|-----|
| St. Bridget of Kildare | 430 | 73% | St. Bridget of Kildare | 430 | 68% |
| St. James - Catawissa | 62 | | Sacred Heart - Eureka | 84 | |
| St. Mary - Moselle | 24 | | St. Alban Roe | 21 | |
| St. John - Gildehaus | 22 | | St. John - Gildehaus | 19 | |
| Other | 52 | | Other | 77 | |
| Total | 590 | | Total | 631 | |



WHERE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS LIVE

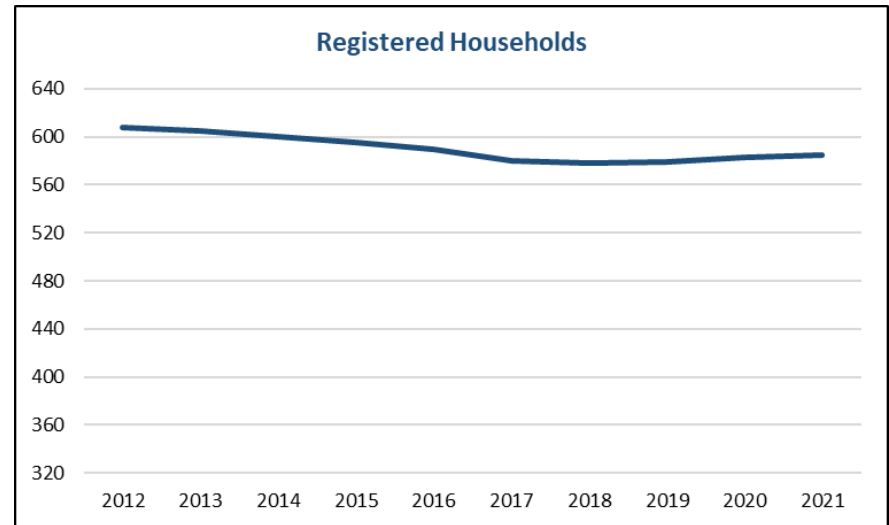
- St. Bridget school enrollment has grown and stabilized in recent years, because of students living in St. Mary and St. James parishes, neither of which have a parish school.
- There are only 79 Catholic school students living in the boundaries of St. Bridget parish.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

REGISTERED HOUSEHOLDS

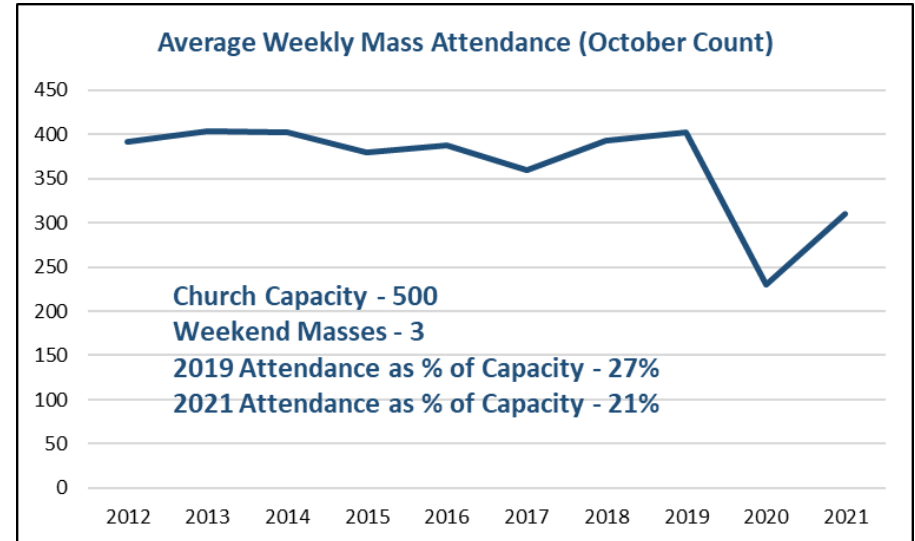
- Registered households have been stable throughout the past decade.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

MASS ATTENDANCE

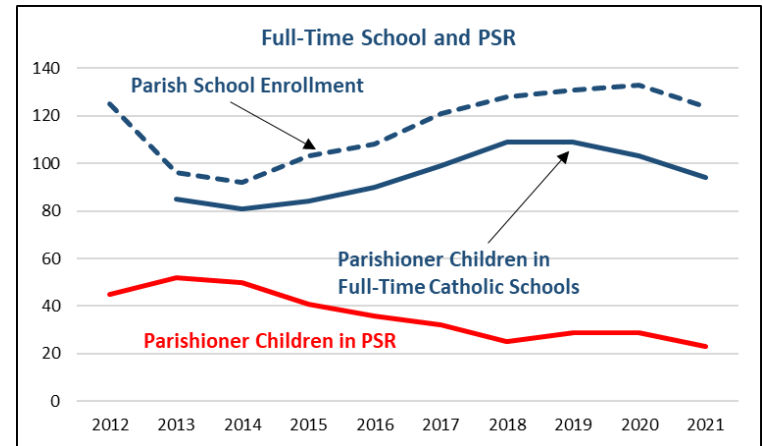
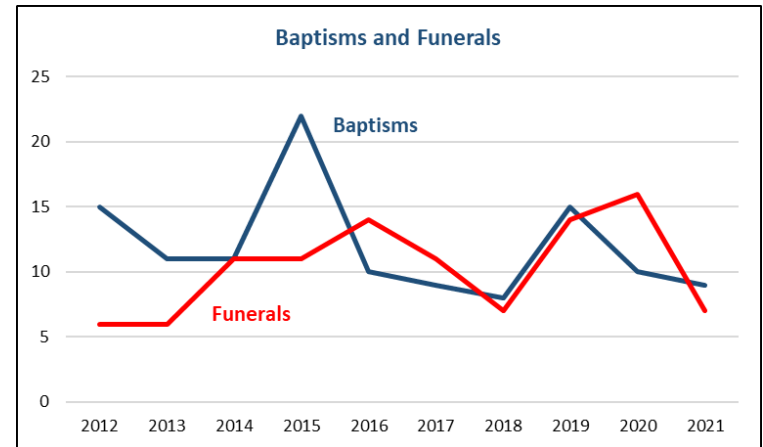
- St. Bridget parish is one of the few in the diocese to have stable Mass attendance pre-COVID.
- Mass attendance as percent of capacity is lower than the archdiocesan average of 33% in 2019 and 25% in 2021.
- Pre-COVID Mass attendance as percent of registered parishioners was 23-26%, lower than the archdiocesan average of 27-29%.



OUR PARISH SACRAMENTAL TRENDS

BAPTISMS, FUNERALS, & K-8 RELIGIOUS FORMATION

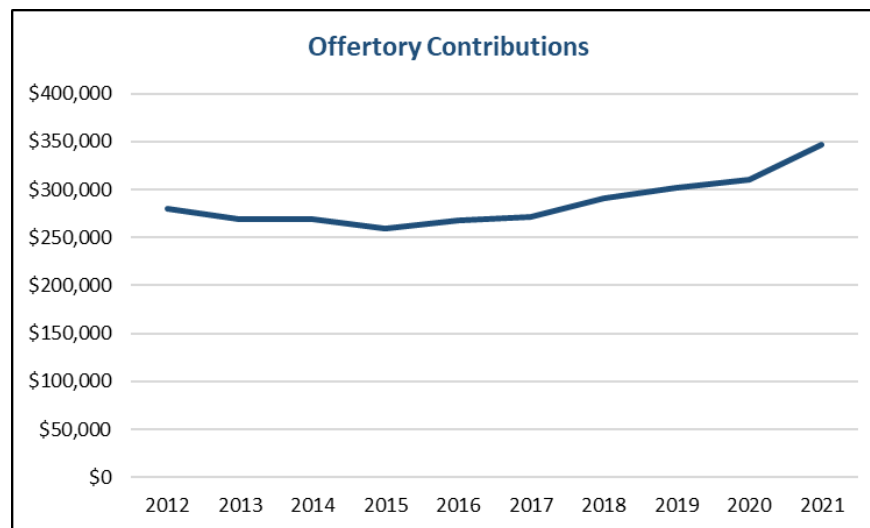
- Baptisms and funerals have been relatively stable over the past decade and have been at about the same level, reflecting somewhat of an aging parish.
- Parish school enrollment has been increasing in the last few years on the strength of enrolling non-Catholic students.
- PSR enrollment has been declining over the past decade.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

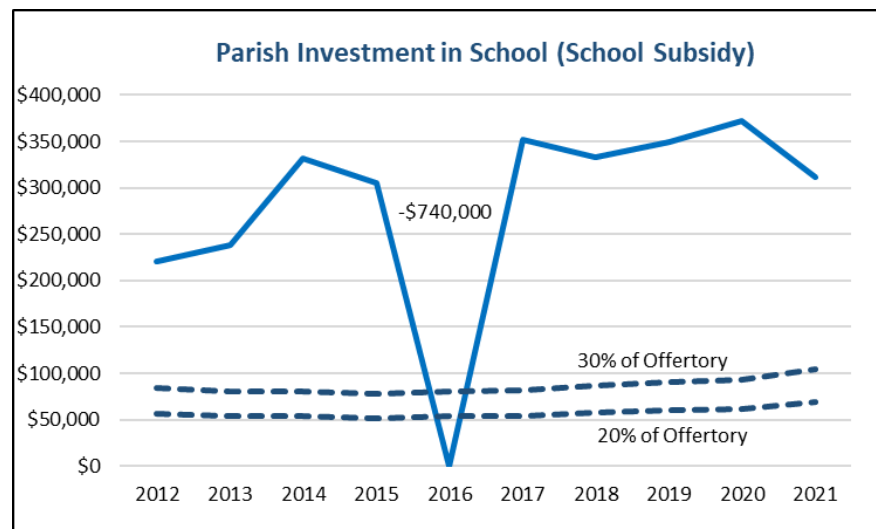
- After being stable for several years, offertory contributions have been increasing over the past few years.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

INVESTMENT IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- A major gift to the school in 2016 does not mask the fact that every year, the parish investment in the day school has been substantially above the recommended 20-30% of offertory giving.



OUR PARISH FINANCIAL TRENDS

PARISH FINANCIAL CONDITION

- Parish revenue is excess of expense has enabled reserves to grow.
- There have been two major gifts in 2016 and 2021; without those gifts, there would be no reserves.

